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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hitoshi FUKUSHIMA et al. Art Unit : 1627
Serial No. : 09/163,199 Examiner : M. Garcia
Filed : September 30, 1998
Title : MANUFACTURE OF A MICROSENSOR DEVICE AND A METHOD FOR
EVALUATING THE FUNCTION OF A LIQUID BY THE USE THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the action mailed June 20, 2000, applicant elects the invention of Group I drawn to the embodiment of claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 18-20 and elects the invention of Species 1 drawn to the embodiment of claim 2. The election is made with traverse because applicant submits that there will be no undue burden on the Examiner to conduct the search for this application because the field of search will be coextensive for the three groups.

Claim 1 of Group I is directed to a method of manufacturing a sensor device that includes a circuit having organic thin films formed on electrodes and a transducing element capable of transducing information recognized by the organic thin films into electrical signals. The method of forming the sensor device includes printing a solution of thin film material as micro-dots onto surfaces of microelectrodes such that organic thin films are formed on the microelectrodes.

Claim 11 of Group III is directed to a sensor device that includes a circuit having electrodes on at least some of which organic thin films are formed by printing a solution of thin film material as micro-dots onto surfaces of electrodes; and a transducing element capable of transducing information recognized by the organic thin films into electric signals. Claim 5 of Group II is directed to a method of using the sensor device of claim 11. As such, there is convergent subject matter and the Examiner will not be required to conduct a search into different fields. Moreover, the searches should be coextensive and should not create an undue burden on the Examiner.

Accordingly, applicant suggests that the Examiner has not made a prima facie case for restricting the claims of this application and the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

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Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 16, 2000

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